

In re: Nojima et al.
Serial No.: 10/705,365
Filed: November 10, 2003

REMARKS

Claims 8-11 and 13-18 are pending in this application. Applicants respectfully acknowledge the indication by the Examiner that the application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters and thus has closed prosecution of the application on the merits. In order to address the aforementioned formal matters, Applicants hereby request entry of the amendment provided above and further consideration of the application in view of the amendment above and the comments below.

In an Ex Parte Quayle Action, the Examiner has noted formal matters at issue regarding claims 8 and 13. Accordingly, Applicants amend claims 8 and 13 herein to incorporate the recitations suggested by the Examiner. In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe that these amendments should address the matters noted by the Examiner in full. However, should the Examiner has any further issues in this regard, Applicants respectfully solicit the Examiner to provide further suggestions in order to bring about the resolution of the same.

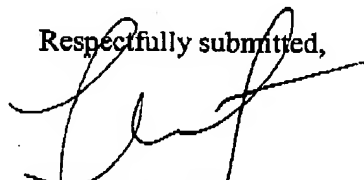
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CONCLUSIONS

Applicants believe that the matters pointed out by the Examiner in the Action have been addressed in full, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any remaining concerns, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned Attorney at (919) 854-1400 to expedite the prosecution of this application to allowance.

No fee is believed due with this paper. Applicants believe this amount to be correct. However, should any extension of time be required, Applicants request that this be considered a petition therefore, and the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any refund to Deposit Account No. 50-0220.

Respectfully submitted,

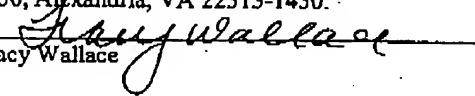


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**CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office via the central facsimile number 571-273-8300 on March 2, 2007 and is addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Tracy Wallace